

REMARKS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections and rejections set forth in the above-mentioned Official Action in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-31 and 35-43 are now pending in the application, with Claims 1, 10, 11, 14, 17, 26, 29 and 35-37 being independent. Claims 32-34 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. Claims 1, 2, 4-8, 10-18, 20-24, 26-31 and 35-37 have been amended and Claims 38-43 are newly presented herein.

Applicant note the Examiner's note that the Form PTO-1449 that accompanied the Information Disclosure Statement filed January 8, 2002, was blank. That form was inadvertently submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement, since only two copending applications were cited. Indication of the Examiner's consideration of those two copending applications are requested.

Claims 4, 10, 11, 14, 17, 26, 29 and 32-37 were objected to for minor informalities. As noted above, Claims 32-34 have been cancelled. Further, Claims 4, 10, 11, 14, 17, 26, 29 and 35-37 have been amended herein to address the concerns of the Examiner. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections to those claims are respectfully requested.

Claims 4, 10, 11, 14, 17, 26, 29 and 32-37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The Examiner suggests that the noted claims are too broad. However, regardless of the breadth of the claims, the features in question are clearly and fully supported in the specification. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 112 rejection are requested.

Claims 1-37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated U.S. Patent No. 6,029,182 (Nehab et al.). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Nehab et al. is directed to a website retrieval system. As understood by Applicant, Nehab et al. describes a web printer that obtains a personal news profile and accesses a website in accordance with data provided in the personal news profile and then acquires data from the website. The web printer formats the acquired data in accordance with a template indicated by the personal news profile and prints the formatted data (newspaper). In addition, the web printer inputs document format data and URL, and formats data acquired based on the inputted URL into a document based on the inputted URL, and then prints the formatted document.

That is, the web printer of Nehab et al. performs both data acquisition on the basis of inputted URL and formatting processing on the acquired data. However, Nehab et al. fails to disclose or suggest at least sending acquisition information for acquiring data and layout information necessary for assigning an image to an external apparatus or acquiring data for output from the external apparatus, as is recited in independent Claims 1, 10, 17 and 35. That is, if an external apparatus performs the formatting processing, the

formatting processing based on the inputted document format data cannot be properly performed.

As noted above, Nehab et al. does not send the layout information to an external apparatus. Accordingly, Nehab et al. also fails to disclose or suggest at least sending layout information to an external apparatus to cause the external apparatus to generate data for output based on the sent layout information, and acquiring the data for output generated by the external apparatus, as is recited in independent Claims 11, 14, 26, 29, 36 and 37. Nor does Nehab et al. disclose or suggest changing the received layout information, as is recited in independent Claims 11, 26 and 36, or determining layout information if the received print instruction does not include any layout information, as is recited in independent Claims 14, 29 and 37.

Thus, Nehab et al. fails to disclose or suggest important features of the present invention recited in independent claims.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 102 rejection are respectfully requested.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention is patentably defined by independent Claims 1, 10, 11, 14, 17, 26, 29 and 35-37. Dependent Claims 2-9, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18-25, 27, 28, 30, 31 and 38-43 are also allowable, in their own right, for defining features of the present invention in addition to those recited in their respective independent claims. Individual consideration of the dependent claims is requested.

Applicant submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration, withdrawal of the objections and rejections set forth in the above-noted Office Action, and an early Notice of Allowability are requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark A. Williamson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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